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08/25/00 09:07 AM

To: Carol Browner/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
cc:
Subject: Scotchgard

— Inkommet från IKEA1.BFRI 0476-81504 00-08-25 15.07

Dear Mrs Browner,

Referring to the EPA press release of May 16, 2000 concerning
3M and their Scotchgard-product, based on the chemical PFOS:

At the end of the press release, there is a mention of the efforts that the EPA was planning to contact foreign governments and other chemical manufacturers to get support for a voluntary phase out of PFOS and related chemicals.

As a home furnishing company, we have some upholstered furniture products with stain-repellent treatment of the cover fabrics. Of course, we are now phaseing out those which were treated with the 3M brand, both for the North American market and for other sales countries (30 in total).

But we would be very interested if the EPA has managed to get similar information from other companies as you received from 3M. In particular an alternative product with which some of our products are treated is the DuPont Teflon-based finish.

In your opinion, do you consider that the environmental and health effects of this chemical can reasonably be expected to be of a similar nature as the PFOS?

The reason for my question is that, while we since a few years back now have a general trend to move over from stain-repellent cover fabrics to non-treated, removable and washable covers, we still will have some products left with this finish into 2001, and of course we want to choose as safe chemical treatments as possible for those articles.

We will ourselves demand as much information from other chemical companies as possible, but we would be most grateful for any input you could give us to guide us in our choices.

Best Regards,

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